



The isospin dependence of the nucleus - nucleus inelastic cross section at high energy

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Abstract The isospin dependence of the nucleus - nucleus inelastic cross section at high energy is investigated within the multiple scattering formalism. The multiple integrals are evaluated by Monte Carlo method as well as by the optical limit approximation of the Glauber model. Calculations are carried out for ^{14}N , ^{16}O and ^{18}O isotopes colliding with carbon target around 1 GeV. It is found that rms radii and the density distributions significantly affect the inelastic cross section.

Keywords Nucleus-nucleus scattering, inelastic cross section, isospin dependence, Monte-carle method

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1. Introduction

The Glauber model has been applied by many authors to study nucleus-nucleus collisions and for describing a number of interaction processes over a wide range of energies. The model gives the nucleus-nucleus interaction in terms of interaction between the constituent nucleons with a given density distribution. The model is a semiclassical model picturing the nuclear collision in the impact parameter representation which works well at high energy. Now, hadron-nucleus and nucleus-nucleus interactions are widely studied at high energy experimental physics and they have been analysed using Glauber as well as other different sophisticated models. In this work, we applied two modifications of the Glauber model in order to deduce the rms radii as well as the matter-density distribution of neutron-rich isotopes using intermediate and high energy nucleus-nucleus collisions, where the many-body multiple integral of the Glauber formalism is calculated exactly by Monte Carlo method as well as by the optical limit approximation.

2. Theoretical description

2.1 Monte Carlo approach for Glauber model

The scattering amplitude of two nuclei with the mass number A and B in the impact parameter representation is given by [1-12]

$$F(b) \Big|_{A(i \rightarrow f), B(i \rightarrow f)} = \left\langle \Psi_A^f, \Psi_B^f \right| 1 - \prod_{j=1}^A \prod_{k=1}^B \left[1 - \gamma(b - s_j + \tau_k) \right] \Big| \Psi_A^i, \Psi_B^i \right\rangle, \quad (1)$$

where b is the impact parameter vector. The angle brackets $\langle \dots \rangle$ mean the average over the initial Ψ_A^i, Ψ_B^i and the final Ψ_A^f, Ψ_B^f state wave functions of nuclei A and B . $\gamma(b)$ is the amplitude of elastic nucleon-nucleon (NN) scattering in the impact parameter representation such that

$$\gamma(b) = \frac{1}{2\pi p} \int e^{iq \cdot b} f(q) d^2 q, \quad (2)$$

where p is the momentum of nucleus A per nucleon in a system and the target nucleus B is at rest, $f(q)$ is the NN-elastic scattering

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amplitude in the momentum representation $\{\nu_A\}$ and $\{\tau_B\}$ are the coordinates of the nucleons with regard to the centers of mass of nuclei A and B, respectively, in the plane of the impact parameter (plane perpendicular to the momentum \mathbf{p}). Using (1), one can find different nucleus-nucleus interaction characteristics. For example, on the simple assumption that

$$|\Psi'_A|^2 = \prod_{i=1}^A \rho_A(\nu_i, z_i), |\Psi'_B|^2 = \prod_{i=1}^B \rho_B(\tau_i, \xi_i). \quad (3)$$

where ρ_A and ρ_B are the one-particle density of nuclei A and B, the inelastic cross section is σ_{AB}^m given as

$$\sigma_{AB}^m = \int d^2b \left\{ 1 - \prod_{i=1}^A \prod_{j=1}^B \left[1 - \gamma(\mathbf{b} \cdot \nu_i + \tau_j) - \gamma^*(\mathbf{b} - s_i + \tau_j) + \gamma(\mathbf{b} - s_i + \tau_j) \gamma^*(\mathbf{b} - s_i + \tau_j) \right] \right\} \prod_{i=1}^A \rho_A(\nu_i, z_i) d^3\nu_i \left\{ \prod_{j=1}^B \rho_B(\tau_j, \xi_j) d^3\tau_j \right\} \quad (4)$$

The main problem of the calculation of this expression is the calculation of the profile function

$$\Gamma(b) = \int \left\{ 1 - \prod_{i=1}^A \prod_{j=1}^B (1 - p_{ij}) \right\} \times \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^A \rho_A(\nu_i) d^3\nu_i \right\} \times \left\{ \prod_{j=1}^B \rho_B(\tau_j) d^3\tau_j \right\}, \quad (5)$$

where $p_{ij} = \gamma(\mathbf{b} \cdot \nu_i + \tau_j) + \gamma^*(\mathbf{b} - s_i + \tau_j) - \gamma(\mathbf{b} - s_i + \tau_j) \times \gamma^*(\mathbf{b} \cdot \nu_i + \tau_j)$. For an interpretation of the experimental data within the framework of the Glauber approach, one needs an effective procedure for evaluating the expressions like (5). It was suggested in [9] that the Monte Carlo method should be used for this purpose. We consider the integrand containing nuclear densities as a probabilistic measure, then one can easily construct the Monte Carlo estimation of the multiple integral in the form

$$G(\mathbf{b} \{ \nu_A \}, \{ \tau_B \}) = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^A \prod_{j=1}^B (1 - p_{ij}) \quad (6)$$

The mean value of $G(\mathbf{b} \{ \nu_A \}, \{ \tau_B \})$ corresponds to the profile function $\Gamma(\mathbf{b})$,

$$\Gamma(\mathbf{b}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N G(\mathbf{b}, \{ \nu_A \}, \{ \tau_B \}), \quad (7)$$

where N is the number of sets of nucleon coordinates of nuclei A and B, sampled from the distribution defined by probabilistic measure

$$d\mu[\rho_A, \rho_B] = \left[\prod_{i=1}^A \rho_A(\nu_i) d^3\nu_i \right] \left[\prod_{j=1}^B \rho_B(\tau_j) d^3\tau_j \right]$$

Practically, N of the order of one hundred is sufficient to obtain the value of an inelastic cross section with the accuracy of several percent

2.2 The optical limit approximation of the Glauber model

The total inelastic cross section can be written as

$$\sigma_{AB}^m = 2\pi \int b db (1 - \gamma^{AB}),$$

and the scattering matrix can be written as

$$|S(b)|^2 = \gamma^{AB} - (1 - T(b) \sigma_{NN})^{AB},$$

where σ_{NN} is the total NN cross section. In the optical approximation, we can write

$$|S(b)|^2 \approx \exp(-T(b) \sigma_{NN} AB)$$

In the coordinate space, the T -matrix can be written as

$$T(b) = \int \rho_A(\mathbf{b}_A) d\mathbf{b}_A \rho_B(\mathbf{b}_B) d\mathbf{b}_B (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}_A + \mathbf{b}_B)$$

It is a four-dimensional integration—two over the parameter \mathbf{b}_A and two over \mathbf{b}_B . It is convenient to write it in momentum space as

$$T(b) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int \rho_A(\mathbf{b}_A) d\mathbf{b}_A \rho_B(\mathbf{b}_B) d\mathbf{b}_B \times \exp(-iq \cdot (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}_A + \mathbf{b}_B)) f_{NN}(q) d^2q$$

Here, f_{NN} is the q -dependence of NN scattering amplitude by

$$f(b) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int \exp(-iq \cdot \mathbf{b}) f_{NN}(q) d^2q,$$

$$T(b) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int \exp(-iq \cdot \mathbf{b}_A) \rho_A(\mathbf{b}_A) \exp(iq \cdot \mathbf{b}_B) d\mathbf{b}_A \rho_B(\mathbf{b}_B)$$

$$\times \exp(-iq \cdot \mathbf{b}_B) d\mathbf{b}_B f_{NN}(q) d^2q$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int \exp(-iq \cdot \mathbf{b}) S_A(q) S_B(-q) f_{NN}(q) d^2q$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int J_0(qb) S_A(q) S_B(-q) f_{NN}(q) q dq,$$

$S_1(q)$ and $S_2(-q)$ are the Fourier transforms of the densities. The function $f_{NN}(q)$ is the Fourier transform of the profile function $T(b)$. The profile function for the NN interaction can be taken as delta if the nucleons are point particles, or it is taken as a Gaussian function of width r_0 as

$$T(b) = \exp(-b^2/r_0^2)/\pi r_0^2 \quad (16)$$

$$\int \exp(iq \cdot b) T(b) db = \frac{1}{\pi r_0^2} \int \exp(iq \cdot b) \exp(-b^2/r_0^2) db = \exp(-q^2 r_0^2/4), \quad (17)$$

r_0 is the range parameter and σ_{NN} is the nucleon-nucleon inelastic cross section

Calculation of $T(b)$ using the Gaussian densities

Neutron densities are assumed to be of the Gaussian shape

$$\rho_i(r) = \rho_i(0) \exp(-r^2/a_i^2), \quad (i=1,2), \quad (18)$$

the parameters $\rho_i(0)$ and a_i are adjusted to reproduce experimentally determined surface texture of the nucleus. The integrated density will be

$$\rho_i(b) = \rho_i(0) \sqrt{\pi} a_i \exp(-b^2/a_i^2) \quad (19)$$

In the momentum representation, we can write it as

$$S_i(q) = \rho_i(0) (\sqrt{\pi} a_i)^{1/2} \exp(-q^2 a_i^2/4) \quad (20)$$

The overlap integral $T(b)$ can be written as

$$T(b) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int \exp(-iq \cdot b) S_1(q) S_2(-q) f_{NN}(q) d^2q = \pi^{1/2} \rho_1(0) \rho_2(0) a_1^{3/2} a_2^{3/2} \int \exp(-iq \cdot b) \exp(-q^2 a^2/4) d^2q, \quad (21)$$

where $a^2 = a_1^2 + a_2^2 + r_0^2$. Performing q integration, we get

$$T(b) = \pi^{1/2} \frac{\rho_1(0) \rho_2(0) a_1^{3/2} a_2^{3/2}}{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + r_0^2} \exp\left(-\frac{b^2}{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + r_0^2}\right) \quad (22)$$

Results and discussion

The rms radii of the sequences of N and O isotopes are shown in Figures 1 and 2, respectively, and the density distribution of these isotopes is shown in Figure 3. These figures are calculated by

many-body Monte Carlo method as well as optical limit of the Glauber approximation, as described in Section 2, and using Table 1 for the reaction cross section. As shown in these figures, the rms radii, in general, increase with increasing the neutron number. The sudden increase at ^{22}N and ^{23}O of the rms radii as well as in the density distribution, indicates a halo structure for these neutron-rich nuclei. The results of the Monte Carlo approach is better than those of the optical limit approximation. This could be due to the Gaussian shape used in the optical

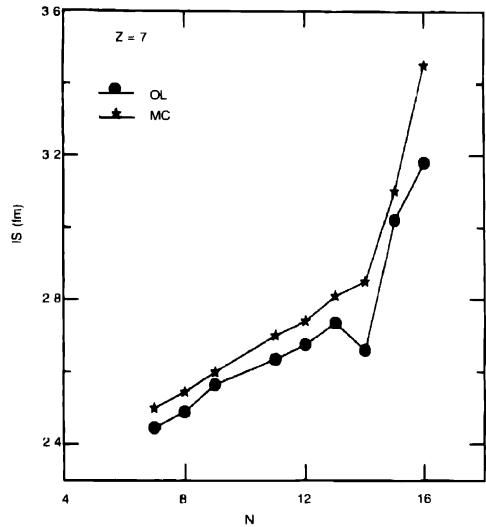


Figure 1. RMS radii of the sequences of N isotopes.

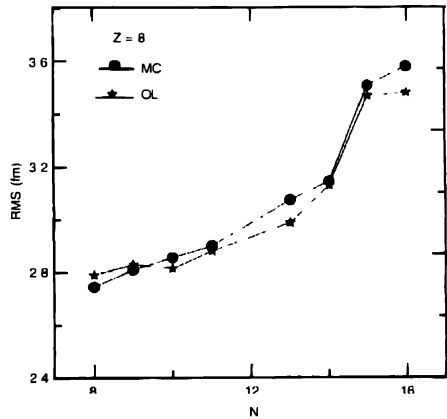


Figure 2. RMS radii of the sequences of O isotopes.

limit which could not handle the isospin dependence of the reaction cross section, *i.e.* could not describe halo's or skip of exotic nuclei. Moreover, the parameters of the nucleon-nucleon

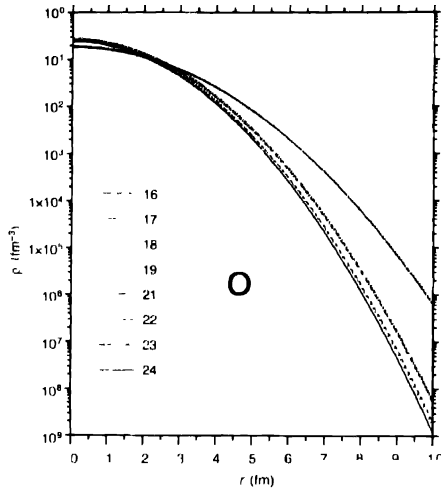


Figure 3 Density distribution of O isotopes

amplitude need to be readjusted in order to get good description of neutron-rich nuclei.

In this calculation, we deduced the radii of the nuclei by two Glauber-model approximations, the optical model and many-body Monte Carlo method for calculating the Glauber integral. We also deduced the effective nucleon densities which describe the reaction cross section σ_R in a better way. The deduced matter radii for ^{22}N and ^{23}O are larger than those of their neighbors and the resulting nucleon densities show a long tail or a halo structure of nuclei as indicated in the experiments.

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Table 1. Reaction cross section σ_R of the systems $^{14,21}\text{N} + ^{24}\text{F} + ^{12}\text{C}$ and RMS matter radii calculated in the multiple theory Monte Carlo method and the optical limit of the Glauber. The experimental data are taken from [8].

| Nucleus | Energy | σ_R^{MC} (mb) | R_{m}^{opt} (OL)(fm) | R_{m}^{ex} |
|-----------------|--------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| ^{14}N | 965 | 932 ± 9 | 2.768 | |
| ^{15}N | 965 | 930 ± 30 | 2.682 | |
| ^{16}N | 1020 | 969 ± 32 | 2.7312 | |
| ^{18}N | 1020 | 1046 ± 8 | 2.878 | |
| ^{19}N | 1005 | 1076 ± 9 | 2.927 | |
| ^{20}N | 950 | 1121 ± 17 | 3.053 | |
| ^{21}N | 1005 | 1114 ± 9 | 2.952 | |
| ^{22}N | 965 | 1245 ± 49 | 3.329 | |
| ^{23}N | 920 | 1399 ± 98 | 3.735 | |
| ^{16}O | 970 | 982 ± 6 | 2.80 | |
| ^{17}O | 970 | 1010 ± 15 | 2.839 | |
| ^{18}O | 1050 | 1032 ± 26 | 2.817 | |
| ^{19}O | 970 | 1066 ± 9 | 2.912 | |
| ^{21}O | 980 | 1098 ± 11 | 2.915 | |
| ^{22}O | 965 | 1172 ± 22 | 3.105 | |
| ^{23}O | 960 | 1308 ± 16 | 3.462 | |
| ^{24}O | 965 | 1318 ± 52 | 3.443 | |
| ^{18}F | 975 | 1100 ± 50 | 3.086 | |
| ^{19}F | 985 | 1043 ± 24 | 2.829 | |
| ^{20}F | 950 | 1113 ± 11 | 3.025 | |
| ^{21}F | 1000 | 1099 ± 12 | 2.903 | |
| ^{23}F | 1020 | 1148 ± 16 | 2.960 | |
| ^{24}F | 1005 | 1253 ± 23 | 3.238 | |
| ^{25}F | 1010 | 1298 ± 31 | 3.319 | |
| ^{26}F | 950 | 1353 ± 54 | 3.464 | |

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